



Friday 22nd March 2024

Dear parent/carer,

## **SUBJECT: Headteacher's Letter - March 2024**

As you will all know by now, this will be my last academic year at Risedale. It has been an amazing experience and I am truly grateful for all of your support for me, my staff and your pupils over the years I have been in charge. You have amazed me with how you have personally given me incredible backing on my own 'coming out' journey two years ago. I am immensely grateful for that.



But it is time for me to move on. I hope that I have made some great enhancements within Risedale and will be leaving it in an even stronger place now. In order to ensure a smooth transition to the new leadership, I will be working closely with my successor, Mrs Lucy Greenwood, who is currently serving as Deputy Headteacher at Harrogate High School. I wish her the very best of luck to continue the journey in this incredible school and I know she will be able to count on your support to do that.

Change is good. It is healthy for our young people to get used to it as it happens in the world of employment too. Within teaching many of us move on periodically as we progress in our careers. I am humbled as well by 'growing our own' talent amongst our staff and, whilst I know you will be sorry to see them leave, I wish to give a big shout out to those other members of staff leaving us this year who are moving on for promotion or wider experiences including Ryan Ford, Sam Wright and Dale Louison. I know the pupils will greatly miss them but I wish them the very best for their future. Similarly, a massive congratulations to Stacey Johnson, our Science Technician, who has gained a new position within the Risedale Family as she begins a long journey that will hopefully lead to qualified teacher status. She will be a great Cover Supervisor in this beginning stage and I know your children will help her develop her teaching skills in order for her to achieve that aim.

**Please do take the time to read the important notices that follow within this letter. We would like to particularly draw your attention to the Year 11 specific section on page 3, which details essential information regarding Easter Revision Sessions, Prom arrangements and payments, Leavers Hoodies, and more. Please note that a further letter will follow in April with additional details.**

Wishing you and your family a pleasant Easter Holiday.

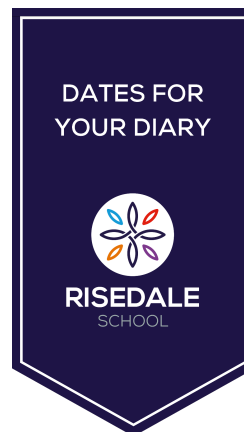
Yours sincerely,

**Colin D. Scott**  
(Headteacher)



## Dates for Your Diary

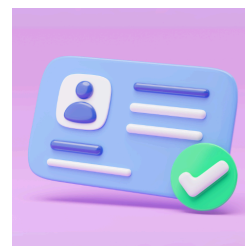
25 March - 5 April	Easter Holiday ( <a href="#">Y11 Easter Revision Sessions</a> )
Monday 8 April	Training Day 4
Tuesday 9 April	Start of Summer Term 1 (pupils return)
Wednesday 10 April	Y8 HPV Immunisations ( <a href="#">Online consent</a> )
16 - 19 April	Y11 GCSE Art NEA 2 Practical
Thursday 18 April	Careers Day
Tuesday 23 April	GCSE PE Moderation Visit
Wednesday 24 April	Y10 Trip to York St. John University
Thursday 25 April	Y10 & 11 Coffee Events (Book you place <a href="#">HERE</a> )
29 April - 3 May	Y11 GCSE French/German Speaking Exams
Friday 3 May	Y10 GCSE Art Trip to Whitby
Monday 6 May	Bank Holiday
Wednesday 8 May	Y10 Enterprise Day
Thursday 9th May	Y11 GCSE Exams Start ( <a href="#">Timetable</a> )
27 - 31 May	Half-Term Holiday
Monday 3 June	Start of Summer term 2 (pupils return)
3 - 7 June	Y10 Work Experience Week



>> Visit our website for a detailed list of [Calendar & Term Dates](#) and more [Exam Information](#).

## Visitor Identification Required at Risedale School

At Risedale School, the safety and wellbeing of our pupils and staff are our top priority. To achieve this, all visitors entering the school, including parents/carers and guests of staff members, **must show a valid form of identification upon arrival at reception.**



Examples of appropriate forms of identification include an official identity badge, a bank card, a passport or driving licence. If you have any questions please contact the school before your visit. Thank you for your cooperation in helping us maintain a secure learning environment.

## Job Vacancies at Risedale

Looking for a rewarding career in education?  
Join the Risedale Family! Our current vacancies:

1. **Senior Science Technician:** Apply by 7 April 2024. Salary: £20,757.22 - £21,812.56 pro rata. Start Date: ASAP.
2. **Year Team Manager:** Apply by 7 April 2024. Salary: £27,337.94 - £29,959.75 pro rata. Start Date: ASAP.
3. **Teacher of Geography:** Apply by 7 April 2024. Salary: Main Pay Scale (Upper Pay Scale will be considered) £30,000 - £46,525.00. Start Date: September 2024.
4. **Administration for SEND and Pupil Support:** Apply by 14 April 2024. Salary: £19,710.63 - £20,712.77 pro-rata. Start Date: ASAP.
5. **Exam Invigilators:** Apply by 14 July 2024. Salary: 12.38 per hour. Start Date: ASAP.

**RISEDAL SCHOOL**  
A family of learners

**Job Vacancies**  
at Risedale School  
**APPLY TODAY**

>> **Competitive salaries and a supportive work environment! Learn more and apply now by visiting our dedicated website page: [Recruitment](#)**

## Year 9 Consultation and Option Evenings

We would like to express our gratitude to everyone who attended our Year 9 Consultation Evening and Options Evening this half-term. If you have any questions or concerns moving forward, please

do not hesitate to contact your child's tutor or a member of the Senior Leadership Team at [enquiries@risedale.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@risedale.org.uk)

If you were unable to attend either of the events here are copies of the documents that were provided to parents on the evenings.

- [Y9 Options Booklet 2024-2026](#)
- [Y9 Options Presentation](#)
- [Link to Year 9 Options website page](#)
- [MCAS, ParentPay and Epraise Information](#)

>> Further information regarding the Options process can be found on our dedicated website page: [Year 9 Options](#)



## Attention Year 11 Pupils and Parents/Carers: Boost Your Exam Performance with Extra Revision Sessions!

We are excited to offer a substantial number of revision sessions specifically designed to supercharge your success in the upcoming GCSE exams.

Don't miss out on this valuable opportunity! We strongly encourage all Year 11 pupils to attend as many sessions as possible, both during the school day, after school and throughout the **Easter Holidays**. These essential sessions are your chance to deepen your understanding, solidify your knowledge and gain the confidence you need to excel in your exams.



A heartfelt thank you to our dedicated staff who are generously giving their time to organise and conduct these crucial revision sessions.

Click the links below to see the revision sessions that we have on offer. Remember, dates and times are live and may be updated, so check back regularly:

- [Y11 Easter Revision Timetable](#). Specific subjects / groups.
- [Y11 Revision Sessions Timetable](#). Lunchtimes and after school.

Remember, regular attendance at these sessions is key to unlocking your full potential and achieving outstanding exam results!

For any inquiries, please contact Senior Teacher, Mr Sherwood, at [Sherwood.R@risedale.org.uk](mailto:Sherwood.R@risedale.org.uk).

## Year 11s, Take Charge of Your Exams!

We recommend that every Year 11 pupil creates a personalised revision timetable. It helps to keep you and your family informed and focused during this crucial time. Revision timetables help you to:

- **Focus on what and when to revise:** Each day becomes clear, with specific subjects and topics mapped out.
- **Organise your studies:** Fit revision into your routine and build in time for relaxation.
- **Stay efficient:** Manage your time and work productively.

> > You can download a **FREE** [Revision Timetable Maker / Study Planner](#) from Get Revising to assist you with your revision planning.



**Revision Materials:** Year 11 pupils were recently given a helping hand in their revision with a selection of stationery. This included a multi-coloured pen, two packs of flashcards for creating revision aids, and some highlighters. These resources are primarily for use at home but are also welcome companions in class or during revision sessions. A friendly reminder from Mrs Tonkin, Exams Officer: while the multi-coloured pens are great for use in class and at home, please remember GCSE exams require a standard black biro pen. Make sure to pack one for the big day!

## Y11 Prom and Leavers' Hoodies 2024



**Prom Tickets:** If you haven't already done so, **please pay the remaining £15.00 for your child's Prom ticket by 27th May** (total cost £25.00 per pupil). All monies must be paid via ParentPay at [www.parentpay.com](http://www.parentpay.com).

**Leavers' Hoodies:** It's not too late to order your personalised Year 11 Leavers' Hoodies.

- **Cost:** £18.00 each.
- **Order Deadline:** 25th March 2024 (no orders accepted after this date).
- **Delivery:** Week commencing 8th April 2024 (delivered directly to the school).
- **Features:**
  - Black hoodie with the Risedale School logo on the left breast.
  - Leavers' emblem on the reverse.
  - Add a name for an additional £3.00 (nicknames subject to school approval).
  - Available in sizes small to 3XL.
- **Wearing Hoodies in School:** Pupils will be able to wear their official leavers' hoodie as an alternative to their school blazer in school from 15th April 2024.



### Link to Purchase Hoodies:

<https://school-shop.co.uk/product/year-11-leavers-hoodie-risedale-school/>

**Need more information?** Please refer to the [letter](#) that was sent to parents on 01/02/2024 or contact Ms Andrea Benson, Pupil Support Manager for KS4, at [Benson.A@risedale.org.uk](mailto:Benson.A@risedale.org.uk) for any further information regarding the Prom or Leavers' Hoodies.

### ADVANCE NOTICE: Canteen Price Increase

We understand that rising costs affect everyone, and, unfortunately, Risedale School hasn't been immune to this challenge. Throughout the past two years, we've seen significant increases in the cost of fresh produce and dry ingredients, some as high as 30%. While we've strived to absorb these costs for as long as possible to ensure our pupils continue to enjoy high-quality meals, we must now make some adjustments to ensure the sustainability of our canteen operations.

After the Easter Holiday, we will be implementing a modest price increase of an average of 9% across most canteen options. We understand this may cause some concern, and we want to assure you that this decision wasn't taken lightly. We explored all possible cost-saving measures before resorting to price adjustments.

For example, our one-course 'Meal Deal' option will move from £2.30 to £2.50, and the two-course option will increase from £2.70 to £2.90.





Please be reassured, that if your child qualifies for Free School Meals, their daily allowance will automatically cover the cost of the two-course 'Meal Deal' ensuring they continue to enjoy a balanced and filling lunch at no additional cost.

> > **An updated price list and example menu can be found on our dedicated website page: [Catering](#).**

## Year 10 & 11 Risedale Family Coffee Events

### Risedale Family Coffee Events

For parents/carers of Year 10 and 11 pupils

Thursday 25th April 2024

10:30am - 12pm or 6pm - 7:30pm



**Calling all Year 10 and 11 parents! Join us for our next Risedale Family Coffee Event, a chance to connect with fellow parents in a relaxed and informal setting.**

**There will be two sessions to choose from on Thursday 25th April 2024:**

- **Early session: 10.30am - 12pm**
- **Late session: 6pm - 7.30pm**

Meet our Assistant SENCo Emma Blatch, SENCo Stacey Burke, Specialist SEND Teacher Catherine Davies, and our School Counsellor Lisa Smith, as we discuss school life and foster a sense of community among parents.

**To RSVP:** To reserve your place please complete the [Google Form](#) by **Thursday 18th April 2024** Alternatively, email Lisa directly at [Smith.L@risedale.org.uk](mailto:Smith.L@risedale.org.uk)

We look forward to seeing you there!

## **NEW: Gardening Club!**

We are very excited to announce the launch of our new Gardening Club!

This club is open to pupils in Years 7-10 and will be held at Lawrence House every Thursday after school 3-4pm. Whether you're a seasoned gardener or just starting out, we welcome everyone who has a passion for plants.

Mr Cornforth and Mr Griffith will be there to guide you on your gardening journey. Come along and learn new skills, get your hands dirty, and help us create a beautiful and productive school garden.



> > **You can check out all the other fantastic lunchtime and after-school activities and clubs that we have on offer at Risedale School by visiting: [Activities & Clubs Timetable](#)**

# Community Messages from External Providers

## FREE Session on Emotional Based School Avoidance (EBSA).

In response to growing concerns over children's emotional struggles with attending school, the North Yorkshire Wellbeing in Mind Team is set to host an insightful and informative session aimed at parents and carers. Scheduled for 9th April 2024, at 5:30 PM, this online event aims to shed light on Emotional Based School Avoidance (EBSA) and provide practical strategies for supporting children through this challenging experience.

To book your place please email [teww.wimthamandrich@nhs.net](mailto:teww.wimthamandrich@nhs.net) and connect with other parents facing similar challenges.

## NEW Free Mental Health Webinars!

The Charlie Waller Trust is arranging a brand new series of webinars that will focus on various aspects of mental health. These webinars are absolutely FREE and open to parents, caregivers, educators, and young individuals who want to learn more about mental health.

To participate in the sessions scheduled for March and April, click the link to [Browse All Webinars](#) or pick from the individual topic links below:

1. [Helping your child understand their emotions and practical strategies to help.](#)
2. [Spotting signs that new students are struggling to settle in and how to support them.](#)
3. [Self-harm - spotting the signs and providing support.](#)
4. [Knowing when a friend is struggling and understanding how to help.](#)
5. [Spotting signs that a young person is struggling with their mental health.](#)
6. [Supporting young people experiencing thoughts of suicide.](#)
7. [Anxiety in young people: spotting the signs and supportive strategies.](#)

**WELLBEING IN MIND TEAM**

**Emotionally Based School Avoidance (EBSA)**

**Parent/ Carer Support session**

**9th April 2024 at 17.30pm on MS Teams**

**Topics Covered:**

- To explain what EBSA is, early warnings signs and causes.
- To develop understanding of functional analysis, to identify the functions of EBSA for each young person, and how to carry this out.
- To look at strategies to support the young person.
- To look at resources to involve the young person in the planning around their return to school.

To book a place please email;  
[teww.wimthamandrich@nhs.net](mailto:teww.wimthamandrich@nhs.net)

OUTWOOD ACADEMY EASINGWOLD  
BEDALE HIGH SCHOOL  
THE SUNBECK CENTRE  
Areté Learning Trust  
THE WENSLEYDALE SCHOOL & SIXTH FORM LEYBURN  
St Francis Xavier School





## North Yorkshire Council's Home-to-School Travel Policy

We have been asked to share the following information with parents/carers by North Yorkshire Council regarding a consultation on proposed changes to the Council's Home-to-School Travel Policy.

The necessary information can be found on the Council's website at [Home to school travel policy - consultation | North Yorkshire Council](#) together with an online survey form for your responses and details of engagement events that will be held during the consultation period.



The consultation closing date is Friday 12 April.

## FEAST - Free Holiday Activities and Food this Easter

FEAST is all about Food, Entertainment, Arts, Sports and being Together... which spells out FEAST! FEAST brings fun to the school holidays, offering loads of different activities for everyone to take part in.

All children and young people across North Yorkshire can get involved in a range of activities, with free places and a free meal for eligible children and young people, thanks to funding from the Department for Education.

If your child is eligible for benefits-related Free School Meals you will receive a voucher. This will enable you to book school holiday activities that are part of the FEAST programme for free, using the online platform HolidayActivities.

To learn more about FEAST, and for information on activities, eligibility and how to manage your bookings, [visit the website](#). For a step-by-step guide on how to redeem your vouchers and book a place using HolidayActivities, [watch this video](#).



**feast**  
**Free activities**  
*for*  
**children and young people**  
this school holiday.

**Packed with sport, art, fun and food, there's something for everyone.**

Everyone in North Yorkshire from Reception to Year 11 (Year 13 if SEND) can join in, with FREE places available for eligible children and young people.

Discover what's on offer at [feastNY.org](https://www.feastny.org)

 NORTH YORKSHIRE TOGETHER  HolidayActivities

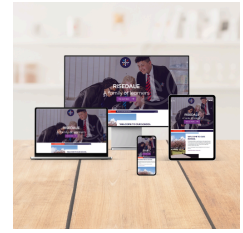
 Department for Education  NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNCIL

 SCAN ME

# General Reminders for Risedale School

## School Website

It is recommended that all parents familiarise themselves with the school's website [www.risedale.org.uk](http://www.risedale.org.uk). There you can find lots of important information such as [calendar and term dates](#), [letters to parents](#), [uniform](#), [policies](#), [exam information](#), [wellbeing](#) and our [latest news](#) to name but a few.



## Uniform

At Risedale, we take great pride in our school uniform and strive to make it as affordable as possible by limiting the number of branded items we offer. Our website provides guidance on the [Uniform](#) policy, which is an integral part of our school's identity. It is mandatory for all pupils to wear the correct uniform at all times. If you have any questions or concerns about the uniform, please contact your child's form tutor as the primary point of contact.



## Online Parental Engagement

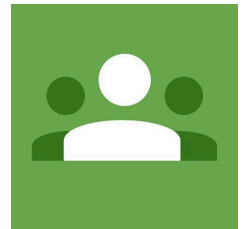
[MyChildAtSchool \(MCAS\)](#) is an online portal for parents that enables you to view your child's performance at school in real-time via the web. **Please check MCAS regularly** as this facility allows you to access your child's timetable, attendance, behaviour and reports whenever you wish to see the latest available information. Parents can access MCAS via the website or can use the MCAS App which can be downloaded from the app/play store.



When your child joins Risedale you will be sent details to allow you to access your account. If you have forgotten your Parent Login details click [HERE](#).

## Google Classroom Parent Alerts

Parents can receive email summaries showing their child's progress in Google Classroom. To become a 'Google Guardian' simply complete this form ['Google Classroom Summary Alerts'](#) and our IT team will set this up for you.



## Equipment and Chromebooks

Please ensure your child has everything they need for school to start the day positively and be prepared to learn.

- Chromebook fully charged and in its case.
- A pencil case containing the following:  
A **black biro**, **red biro** and **blue biro**, pencil, ruler and eraser to enable pupils to take pride in their presentation (P.R.O.U.D) and earn Epraise points.
- PE kit (on the timetabled day).
- Reading book (KS3 only).
- Art doodle book (KS3 only, on the timetabled day).

<b><u>P</u></b>	Write in <b>PEN</b> : black for writing, red for underlining and blue for <b>DIRT</b>
<b><u>R</u></b>	Use a <b>RULER</b> for all tables, grids and graphs
<b><u>O</u></b>	<b>OOPS!</b> Draw a single line with a ruler through mistakes
<b><u>U</u></b>	<b>UNDERLINE</b> titles etc. with a red pen and a ruler
<b><u>D</u></b>	Only use a pencil to <b>DRAW</b> with

Always be **PROUD** of your work